

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing device for an endoscope, wherein an excitation light shielding filter, effective for shielding excitation light when in a fluorescence image mode and for transmitting light other than a part of blue wavelength band, a wavelength band filter for shielding at least a part of the blue wavelength band is disposed in front of an image pickup element built into the endoscope, for image processing the signal ~~output~~ outputted by said image pickup element, and generating color image signals while switching between a normal-light image mode using white light and the fluorescence image mode including fluorescence information, the device comprising:

a first white balance section that performs gain adjustment so that the output intensity of each of red, green and blue signals may be of a constant value, and adjusts the gain of a prescribed color signal of the color image signals when in the normal-light image mode;

a second white balance setting section that stores the gain adjustment values of the red, green and blue signals in the white balance section, and attenuates the blue gain to a prescribed value;

a parameter setting section that obtains a mode signal from a control section and determines whether to output a parameter for a fluorescence image or a parameter for a normal-light image to output a parameter suited to the mode; and

a matrix section that applies prescribed matrix calculations to the red, green and blue signals subjected to the gain adjustment in the first white balance section using a parameter suited to the mode outputted by the parameter setting section to generate the fluorescence image signal or the normal-light image signal.

~~a signal generator that generates color image signals while switching between a normal-light image mode using white light and a first filter and a fluorescence image mode using a second filter and including fluorescence information; and~~

~~a gain adjuster that adjusts the gain of a prescribed color signal of said color image signals.~~

2. **(Previously Presented)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 1, comprising a further signal generator which generates a blue signal using a prescribed color signal of said color image signals, when in said normal-light image mode.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 1, wherein said ~~gain adjustor~~ first white balance section attenuates the blue gain.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 1, wherein said ~~gain adjustor~~ first white balance section amplifies the red and green gain.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 1, wherein said ~~gain adjustor~~ first white balance section calculates an intensity of color elements using the red and blue or green color signals and sets gain adjustments amounts.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 2, wherein said further signal generator forms a blue signal by adjusting the gain of a prescribed color signal.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 1, comprising a further control section which inputs information relating to the type of said endoscope connected thereto, and controls said ~~adjusting means~~ white balance sections on the basis of this information.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 2, comprising a further control section for controlling said further signal generator.

9. **(Original)** The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 3, wherein said gain attenuation is in the range of 15% to 30%.

10. (Original) The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 4, wherein said gain amplification is in the range of 18% to 42%.

11. (Previously Presented) The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 6, wherein the prescribed color signal which is gain adjusted by said further signal generator is a green signal.

12. (Original) The image processing device for an endoscope according to claim 10, wherein said gain adjustment is attenuated to 40%.

13. - 24. (Cancelled)